Date: 4/30/04

To: Federal Communications Commission

From: Jimmy Devarie

RE: Broadband over Power Lines (BPL)

I write to you to comment about the now established Internet access via BPL technology and my concerns regarding interference generated by it and its interaction with other technologies including my amateur radio-activities. BPL as it currently stands, needs to adhere to Part 15 of the FCC rules however, even tough Part 15 is clear in its requirements, it worries me that it will have very minimal meaning in practice. As it currently stands BPL will be very susceptible to interference from HF sources, it will take minimal effort to disturb it during an amateur radio transmission. This interference my lead to the identification of the amateur transmission as the source of the interference which may lead to a sizable amount of discomfort between the BPL users and the amateur station operators due to a poor implementation of the BPL and a lack of knowledge of the public relating Part 15 of the FCC rules.

The interference that BPL will create will adversely affect other radio services including the amateur radio services. It is not newly acquired knowledge that RF transmitted through conductor will radiate to great distances. Given the power levels at which other radio services operate, it is not strange that interferences from BPL deployments are to be expected. To this effect I would like to recommend more specific rules specifying the deployment of BPL systems. The NTIA has proposed several ways to effectively measure radiated power from BPL systems that can be used as a standard that will help minimize and hopefully virtually eliminate the threat of interference from BPL.

I urge the FCC to take this issue seriously; to move cautiously and to act with the well being of the people it serves in mind rather than rushing to fulfill the ambitions of the few with a poorly implemented innovation. There are other ways to get broadband to far reaches and with minimal investment in infrastructure. Those other ways do not interfere with established services and even more, they are far less susceptible to interference from already established radio services.

Respectfully

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